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ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 061956Z FEB 08
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7261
INFO RUCNCAN/ALL CANADIAN POSTS COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 2236
RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY 0721
RUEHKH/AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 0911
RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY 2358
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 0985
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY 3471

UNCLAS OTTAWA 000189

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E.O. 12958: N/A
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SUBJECT: CANADIAN CONCERN OVER CHAD AND SUDAN

REF: STATE 10951

¶1. (SBU) FM Bernier issued a statement February 4 in response to recent developments in Chad, which said: "Canada strongly condemns the attacks by rebel groups in Chad and, in particular, in N'Djamena. We join newly elected African Union President Jakaya Kikwete in expressing our deep concern with this attempt to overthrow the Chadian government by military means." He urged all parties to resolve their differences through negotiations and to ensure full access to conflict areas by civilians aid workers.

¶2. (SBU) According to the Sudan Desk Officer at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), DFAIT's Director General for Africa separately conveyed many of the points in our demarche (reftel) to the Sudanese government when he visited Khartoum recently. She said the Canada is also making clear to the Government of Sudan that it will not have improved relations with Canada absent fundamental changes in policy and better dealings with Canadian officials. She thanked us for sharing our points and promised that Canada would continue to convey a strong message to Sudan on the issue of its involvement in Chad.

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